

**REMARKS**

Applicant adds new claims 11-13; therefore, claims 7-13 are now pending in this divisional application.

The Examiner rejects claims 7-10 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Matsuzaki et al. (Matsuzaki) (See Office Action, pages 4-5, paragraphs 6-11). Also, the Examiner objects to the specification and claim 7 due to minor informalities, and requires corrections accordingly (See Office Action, pages 2-3, paragraphs 3-5). Further, the Examiner objects to the drawings as failing to comply with 37 C.F.R. § 1.84(p)(5) because they do not include reference signs mentioned in the description, namely, element 40 (See Office Action, page 2, paragraph 1).

With regard to the drawings, Applicant respectfully submits that there were two sets of drawings filed on January 15, 2002 with this divisional application. The first set included the drawings which correspond to the drawings originally filed in the parent of this divisional application. The second set included the corrected formal drawings, which correspond to the corrected formal drawings filed on November 15, 2001 in the parent application, and which address the same objection raised in the parent application as the one being raised here. The Examiner is respectfully requested to confirm the receipt of the corrected formal drawings, and to withdraw this objection accordingly.

With regard to the Examiner's objections to the specification and claim 7, these are addressed and overcome by the specification and claim amendments as set forth above. Also, Applicant shortens the title to "PLASMA DISPLAY PANEL," in order to better describe the subject matter of this divisional application as being directed to the device.

Applicant amends claims 7-9 more clearly to define the features of the embodiments recited therein. These amendments are merely clarifying amendments and do not narrow the scope of claims 7-10 – no estoppel is created. Applicant also adds new claims 11-13 which more particularly define some of the features of Applicant's invention.

With regard to the Examiner's §102(e) rejection, Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection as follows.

Matsuzaki discloses a gas discharge display panel where shared auxiliary discharge electrode 143 is used as a common electrode to adjacent display cells, trigger electrode 144 extends across display cells, and display electrode 191 is a common electrode extending over the display cell lines. None of Matsuzaki's electrodes 143, 144 and 191 overlaps total width of a plurality of cells.

In contrast to Matsuzaki, Applicant's claimed invention requires a common sustaining electrode disposed for a plurality of rows of matrix display cells over a total width of a plurality of the display cells for a plurality of rows (see Applicant's independent claim 7). A non-limiting example for realizing such a structure of overlapping the total width of a plurality of cells, is to dispose a common sustaining electrode on a different layer from a scanning electrode (or a data electrode).

The Examiner alleges that Matsuzaki's auxiliary discharge electrode 143 and trigger electrode 144 (see Id., Fig. 2) are sustaining electrodes (see Office Action paragraphs 10 and 11). Applicant respectfully disagrees. In fact, these electrodes are not sustaining electrodes, but electrodes for auxiliary discharge.

In Matsuzaki, sustaining electrodes are a set of two main discharge electrodes 6 and 7. That is, in Matsuzaki, the auxiliary discharge is generated between auxiliary discharge electrode 143 and non-shared auxiliary discharge electrode 141. A cell for generating main discharge is selected by applying a pulse voltage between electrodes 141 and 6. The main discharge (or sustaining discharge) is generated by applying the pulse voltage between the electrodes 6 and 7.

In summary, Matsuzaki does not disclose or suggest at least the above-noted features of Applicant's claimed invention. Therefore, Applicant's independent claim 7, as well as its dependent claims 8-10, are not anticipated by (i.e., are not readable on) Matsuzaki at least for these reasons.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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